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SYNOPSIS OF SIGNIFICANT COMMENTS

AND SUGGESTIONS

DAILY SUMMARY

1. CIA is doing a better job of briefing the cable traffic than OIR of the State Department. (Mr. Robert G. Barnes, Special Assistant to the Secretary; Mr. W. Park Armstrong, Special Assistant to the Secretary for Research and Intelligence.)
2. The CIA comments are a valuable addition to the Daily Summary. (Office of Chief of Staff to the Commander-in-Chief; Office of Secretary of Defense; Secretary to the Joint Chiefs of Staff.)
3. The Situation Reports are interesting and valuable. (Secretary of Defense; Secretary of Army.)
4. The special evaluations are interesting and should be produced more frequently. (Secretary of Army; Assistant CNO [Political Military Affairs,])
5. The Daily Summary would be improved by the use of a special annotation to indicate the "day's top" intelligence item. (Secretary of Air Forces; Deputy Chief of Staff, Operations USAF.)
6. The Daily Summary should be limited to items of utmost significance. (Chief of Staff, USA; Director of Intelligence, USAF.)
7. The Daily Summary should continue to carry the brief summation of comments which it formerly contained. (Chief of Staff Designate, USAF.)
8. There is too much emphasis on political intelligence in the Daily Summary. (Deputy Director of Intelligence, Hq., USAF.)
9. There has been considerable improvement in the Daily and Weekly Summaries in the past 6 months. (Director of Intelligence, USAF.)

WEEKLY SUMMARY

10. The Weekly Summary is often repetitious of the Daily Summary and occasionally contains information that is "stale". (Office of Chief of Staff, USA.)
11. There are not enough articles in the Weekly Summary on Russia and her Satellites. (Secretary, National Security Council.)
12. The Weekly Summary often has some valuable special articles of which the recent one on the Palestine situation is an example. (Naval Aide to the President.)

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DETAILS OF INDIVIDUAL INTERVIEWS

THE PRESIDENT

The Daily and Weekly Summaries are read regularly by the President. The President's copy is received by his Naval Aide, Capt. H. W. Dennison, who reads the entire issue, marks significant items with a red pencil and occasionally writes on the outside cover to call to the attention of the President those items in which Dennison thinks he will be particularly interested. Occasionally as he hands the summary to the President, Dennison elaborates for a few sentences on an item he has marked. Captain Dennison makes no attempt to brief the summaries as he feels that it is dangerous to attempt to brief material which has already been condensed.

Captain Dennison says that the President finds the Summaries extremely useful and reads them every day. The recent special article on Palestine which appeared in the Weekly Summary was considered by Dennison to be excellent. His suggestions for improvement of the Daily Summary are two: (1) discontinue the practice of references to previous issues of the summary and instead include a key sentence or two from the referenced item. Previous issues have usually been destroyed, returned to CIA, or for other reasons are not readily available as a reference; (2) CIA comments of non-concurrence with a preceding item should be directly tied to the reasons for discrediting a "reliable source" rather than a general comment of non-concurrence in a conclusion reached in the challenged report.

SECRETARY OF STATE

The Secretary has not seen the Daily or Weekly Summaries for the past five months. Mr. Robert G. Barnes, Special Assistant to the Secretary, reads both the Daily and Weekly for Secretary Marshall, and if there is an item which the Secretary has not already seen, Barnes calls it to his attention. Barnes states however that Secretary Marshall reads the same traffic on which most of the Daily and Weekly are based, and in addition, receives a daily sheet which Barnes prepares for him. Occasionally, an Army, Navy or Air item of significance will appear in the Daily and it is then called to the Secretary's attention by Barnes. No other individuals see the summaries.

Barnes has three criticisms of the summaries: (1) references to back issues which are not easily available should be replaced by a significant quote (if necessary) from the background material, (2) Barnes objects to what he described as the practice of using as CIA comment, the observations of the originator of the source dispatch. It should be made clear, according to Barnes, that CIA is merely concurring with an already evaluated dispatch, (3) when CIA considers a rumor significant enough to print it and credit it to high sources, more explanation should be given when the CIA comment flatly states a position of complete non-concurrence.

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Mr. Barnes feels that CIA is doing a better job than OIR of the Department of State in its selection and evaluation of cables. Barnes feels very strongly that the distribution of the Summaries should be limited to the top operational and planning level officials and should not include the intelligence divisions of the various IAC agencies. (The Department views on this subject are covered in detail in a separate memorandum dated 25 February 1948 to Chief, Survey Division attached as TAB C)

CHIEF OF STAFF TO THE COMMANDER IN CHIEF

Admiral Leahy reads and marks his copy of the Daily Summary each day. On the following day the marked portions of the summary are often on the agenda for the private conference held with the President. On trips where the daily conference procedure is not followed, the President's copies of the Daily and Weekly Summary are held in Washington for his Naval Aide, and Admiral Leahy's copies are flown to him by pouch for his use and for the President. An additional procedure occasionally employed when the President and Admiral Leahy are both out of the country is to advise ~~whether~~ either the Admiral or the President by Top Secret White House cable of a significant item which might otherwise not be seen promptly. An example of this procedure was the cabling of an item concerning the shooting down of U. S. planes by Yugoslav fighters; an event which occurred while Leahy and the President were in Brazil.

Admiral Leahy's copies of the Daily and Weekly Summaries are also read by Commander E. B. Grantham, Aide to Admiral Leahy. Commander Grantham thinks that the CIA comments are valuable but should not be used to comment on future political probabilities; they should definitely be used to depreciate reports which are included in the Summary, but in which CIA concurrence is lacking or only partial.

Both Admiral Leahy and Commander Grantham are well satisfied with the form and content of the Summaries as they are currently prepared.

SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

Captain Charles A. Buchanan, Senior Aide to Secretary Forrestal reports that the Secretary reads the Daily Summary every day. Captain Buchanan advised that the Secretary asked a short time ago that delivery of the Summary to him be speeded up so he could see it at approximately the same time as the President. This arrangement has been made and the Secretary reads each issue early in the afternoon on the day of its issue. Mr. Forrestal also reads the Weekly Summary, though not as religiously as the Daily Summary, which he considers "the bible" according to Captain Buchanan. Mr. John

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Ohly, the Special Assistant to the Secretary for Political Intelligence, was also interviewed. Mr. Ohly said that the Daily Summary is the one report he takes time to read every day as soon as it reaches his desk. Mr. Ohly feels that the summary is an excellent job and said that he especially likes the CIA comments. He cited the example of an item reporting a document in Italy, which a comment indicated CIA believed to be spurious, giving several reasons for this conclusion (which later proved to be correct). Mr. Ohly also reads the Weekly Summary, though not as regularly or as promptly as the Daily. He had no suggestions as to style or comment and stated that he thought it was an excellent job. Both Mr. Ohly and Captain Buchanan also believe the CIA Situation Reports to be valuable, primarily because they feel that they are a synthesis of the best informed analysis of the subject matter covered. No one else in the Secretary's Office reads the summaries with the exception of Lt. Cmdr. Berry, TS Control Officer, and Mr. Robert Blum who is associated with Mr. Ohly. Ohly stated purely as a personal observation that he occasionally skipped items in the Daily because they did not pertain to his job, although he might be personally interested in the item. He said he realized that this could not be helped as each recipient had his own set of special interests.

SECRETARY OF THE ARMY

The Daily and Weekly Summaries are read avidly by Mr. Royall, according to Lt. Colonel Batte, his aide. The Secretary reads the Daily as soon as it is received, and if he should miss an issue, he asks where it is. Copies which arrive while the Secretary is out of town are saved for his return. No one else in the office reads this copy. Col. Batte states that both he and the Secretary especially like the Special Evaluations.

SECRETARY OF THE NAVY

The copy of the Daily and Weekly Summary addressed to the Secretary is read first by Rear Admiral E. T. Wooldridge, Assistant CNO (Political-Military Affairs). The Admiral calls to Mr. Sullivan's attention those items in which he feels the Secretary would be interested. The copy is also read by Captain Fitzhugh Lee, Personal Aide to the Secretary of the Navy. In addition, the Daily and Weekly Summaries are seen by three Assistant Secretaries of the Navy. As a result of the necessary routing, the Weekly Summary is very often a week or so late by the time it reaches the last readers. Admiral Wooldridge particularly likes the CIA special evaluation and feels that there should be more of them. He states specifically that he would like to see an analysis of the problem of what to do with Germany in view of Soviet intransigence. The Admiral would also like to see an analysis of the current Iranian situation inasmuch as nothing has been published on this subject for some time. Wooldridge stated that he felt that the Palestine evaluation should have been published prior to the announcement of partition.

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Another comment by Rear Admiral Wooldridge is covered in a Top Secret supplemental report which is transmitted concurrently for your information.

The Secretary of the Navy reads his marked copy of the Daily Summary regularly and sees perhaps a third of the Weekly Summary. All hands are apparently satisfied with the production with the exception mentioned above. In closing the interview with Admiral Wooldridge, he mentioned that a continuing effort should be made to produce intelligence estimates on as timely a basis as is practicable. He feels this is being done in the Daily Summary but is not always true of the special evaluations. Captain Lee feels that a more satisfactory treatment for the Daily Summary would be a series of one or two sentence highlights rather than the paragraph treatment now given in that publication.

SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE

The Secretary's copy is read daily by Mr. C. V. Whitney, Assistant Secretary of the Air Force, and by Colonel Sweeney, his aide. Both Colonel Sweeney and Mr. Whitney occasionally flag an item for Mr. Symington, the Secretary. Col. Sweeney suggests a "box" at the top of the first page of the Daily Summary. The box would be filled only on days when there was one outstanding item of top significance; it otherwise would be left blank. Sweeney feels that in this way the day's top intelligence would be available at a glance and would not have to be screened from the remaining items of possibly lesser significance. Neither Mr. Whitney nor the Secretary have any specific comments with reference to the Daily or Weekly, but Col. Sweeney states that the publications are appreciated and read regularly by Mr. Whitney, who would have made some comment to Sweeney if they were unsatisfactory.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY TO THE NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

The Daily and Weekly Summaries were discussed with Mr. James S. Lay, Jr., Deputy Executive Secretary of the Council, who stated that all the permanent members of the Council find the publications of use. Mr. Lay queried Mr. Sidney W. Souers, the named recipient, and relayed the information that Mr. Souers feels that CIA is doing a fine job insofar as he can tell. Mr. Souers emphasized that he did not see the material upon which CIA publications are based so he is not in a position to judge the adequacy of the selection. Mr. Souers also commented that from his viewpoint, he would like to see more articles in the Weekly Summary about what is going on in Russia and the Satellites. The Secretary feels that the articles in the Weekly Summary adequately cover the other parts of the world, but there are not enough articles on the most vital areas.

Mr. Souers personally reads the Daily and Weekly Summaries with regularity. The summaries are also read by Mr. Lay, Dr. Boggs and Mr. H. S. Villard of the State Department, Colonel Johnson of the Army, Captain Austin of the Navy Department, and Lt. Colonel Heffebower of the Air Forces.

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CHIEF OF STAFF, UNITED STATES ARMY

While General Eisenhower was Chief of Staff, his Deputy, Major General Lawton J. Collins, and Major Joel M. Hollis, Assistant Secretary of the General Staff, were the only persons in the office of the Chief of Staff who had regular access to the Daily and Weekly Summaries. Occasionally, however, the summaries were read by Lt. Colonel J. W. Bowen, Secretary of the General Staff.

A check with the office of the Chief of Staff since the appointment of General Omar Bradley to succeed General Eisenhower has indicated that except for Bradley's Personal Aide, the staff of the Office of Chief of Staff will remain the same. It can be assumed that existing procedures will be retained, at least for the time being, in handling the CIA summaries. The following procedure was in effect when General Eisenhower was Chief of Staff.

Major Hollis reads the summary and passes it without comment to General Collins who reads it almost daily. General Collins passes it to the Chief of Staff when there are items in which he thinks the General will be interested. Both General Eisenhower and General Collins "read it with their pencils in hand". Eisenhower often wrote such marginal notes, as, "Has Poorestal seen this?" or "Does Symington know this?" in which case the coordination was effected with the appropriate official. If either Hollis or Collins feel it appropriate, the Director of Army Intelligence is called upon to elaborate an item at the weekly briefing. General Eisenhower was out of town a great deal of the time and relied on the Intelligence Division's weekly briefing to keep him posted. Major Hollis feels that the Daily Summary should be limited to items of utmost significance. Major Hollis felt that the Weekly Summary, because of its length, needed briefing before General Eisenhower saw it. The General was interested in approximately one-third of the items in the Daily Summary, but felt that it was good background and is one of the best intelligence publications. Hollis feels that the Weekly Summary is often repetitious and occasionally "stale".

CHIEF OF NAVAL INTELLIGENCE

The Daily and Weekly Summaries are read for Admiral Denfeld by Captain Yeager, USN, Administrative Aide. Items are occasionally flagged for the Admiral's attention though he apparently relies primarily on two weekly briefings by his Chief of Naval Intelligence to keep him posted. This copy is also read daily by Capt. Wilkins, Joint Chiefs of Staff Representative, and Lt. Commander Miller, personal aide to CNO. The same copy is read for Admiral Radford, Deputy CNO by Captain Hollingsworth who flags significant items for Radford. No specific comments were available other than that all hands were well satisfied.

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CHIEF OF STAFF, UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

This copy is read by General Vandenberg, Vice-Chief of Staff who calls to the attention of General Spaatz those items which he thinks the Chief of Staff should see. The copy is also read by Major White, Aide to General Vandenberg. General Vandenberg also reads the Weekly Summary and is interested in the ORE Studies. According to Major White, General Vandenberg is more than satisfied with the summaries and reads them regularly and with keen interest. When the General was asked if he had any specific comment on the summaries, he replied that he thought the Daily Summary should continue to carry the brief summation of contents which it used to contain and which is still carried in the Weekly. General Vandenberg had no other comments.

DIRECTOR OF PLANS AND OPERATIONS, GSUSA

No comment from General Wedemeyer. Lt. Colonel James I. Muir, Jr., Aide, states that the Daily and Weekly are each read carefully and regularly by Generals Wedemeyer, Timberman (Chief, Operations Group), Schuyler (Chief, Plans and Policy Group) and by Colonel Biddle (Asst. Chief, Plans and Policy). No specific comments were available, but, according to Col. Muir, the Summaries were well received and of definite value to the recipient and readers in the office of the Director, Plans and Operations.

DEPUTY CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS (OPERATIONS)

This copy is read only by Rear Admiral Charles Wellborn, Jr., named recipient, who because of frequent and prolonged absence from the city has not been available for comment. No one else in the Admiral's office is cleared to receive the summaries.

DIRECTOR OF PLANS AND OPERATIONS, UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

According to Colonel O. S. Picher, Aide to Major General O. P. Weyland, the Daily and Weekly Summaries are read with avidity by the named recipient and his two deputies. No specific comments were available from individual readers.

SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR RESEARCH AND INTELLIGENCE

Mr. W. Park Armstrong, the named recipient, stated that he believes that CIA is doing a better job than OIR of the Department of State in briefing the cables for use in the Daily Summary. The Weekly Summary is worthwhile if it can be circulated to key officials while it is still timely, according to Mr. Armstrong. Another comment by Mr. Armstrong is covered in a Top Secret supplemental report which is transmitted concurrently for your information.

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DIRECTOR OF INTELLIGENCE, GSUSA

The Director's copy is read personally by him and by his deputy, Major General Bolling. It is also read by Col. Williams, Executive Director; Colonel Clarke, Assistant; and Colonel Ennis, Chief, Intelligence Group. In addition, the Daily and Weekly are read by the Chiefs of the various geographic branches (16). Major Edmondson, aide to Lt. General Chamberlin, asked that he survey all readers and get their views. Major Edmondson, states that all readers feel that the Daily and Weekly are worthwhile publications, and that they are read regularly. Major Edmondson stated that none of the readers had a specific comment to make.

CHIEF OF NAVAL INTELLIGENCE

The Office of Naval Intelligence receives three copies each of the Daily and Weekly Summaries. These are given an initial combined distribution of 16 although they are read by more than this number. One copy goes to Rear Admiral Thomas B. Inglis, Chief of Naval Intelligence, and is read by both the Admiral and his Executive Assistant, Captain H. W. Baltazzi. During the course of an interview with Admiral Inglis he reiterated his previously expressed views that CIA should publish two summaries: one a Top Secret publication for very limited distribution, and one no higher than Secret for wider distribution. The Admiral feels that by so doing, CIA would be serving the useful purpose of eliminating duplication and would free ONI of a percentage of effort in the field of political intelligence. Admiral Inglis estimates that 25% of the entire workload of ONI is devoted to the production of political and economic intelligence. (The Admiral's views on the alleged failure of CIA to produce enough political intelligence for the Navy is discussed in detail in a separate memorandum to Chief, Survey Division dated 9 March 1948, a copy of which is attached as TAB D.) The Admiral would like to see more special evaluations with particular emphasis on Soviet intentions and capabilities in Europe, etc.

A second copy of the Summaries is routed to Branch Chiefs in ONI and includes such key readers as Captains Espe (OP 32Y), Lange (OP 32 FN), Henry (OP 32 V) and Dubois (OP 32 D). No specific comments were available from readers of the second copy.

The third copy is routed to The Commandant of the Marine Corps and is read first by Colonel H. C. Horner, G-2, USMC. It is then sent directly to The Commandant, General Clifton B. Cates, and is read also by General Robinson (Plans and Policies) and by General L. C. Shepherd, Jr., Assistant Commandant. All readers in The Commandant's office were enthusiastic in their comments about both the Daily and Weekly Summaries and feel that they are of assistance in Marine Corps planning. Colonel Horner states that The Commandant is particularly interested in the special evaluations.

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DIRECTOR OF INTELLIGENCE
UNITED STATES AIR FORCES

Major General George C. McDonald, named recipient, believes that, in general, there has been considerable improvement in the Daily and Weekly Summaries in the past six months; he has no detailed comment or criticism.

Major General Charles P. Cabell, Deputy Director, was interviewed and said that he is a regular reader of both the Weekly and the Daily. The General feels that there is too much emphasis on political intelligence and not enough of specific value to the Air Force. The General said that he realizes that it would be difficult to expand the publications to meet the particular requirements of each recipient.

Colonel James F. Olive, Chief, Air Intelligence Division, feels that the summaries are doing a good job, but should go one step further in presenting National intelligence. The items presented should reflect the major intelligence of international interest for the period of the summary rather than the top items in each geographical area. In other words, the top story of the day insofar as South America is concerned, might be a strike in Peru, but actually the only story of the day might be action in Greece or Palestine. Colonel Olive feels that the summary should be presented in such a manner that only those items of paramount intelligence importance are presented regardless of geographical location. Olive feels this also applies to the Weekly Summaries though it is not so evident as in the Daily Summaries.

Colonel Hugh D. Wallace, Deputy Chief, Air Intelligence Division, stated that resumes of articles in the Weekly Summaries are often almost as long as the actual articles; either the articles should be eliminated or the resumes condensed. With reference to the Situation Reports Colonel Wallace feels that it is important that the reports state that the information contained therein is as of a certain date. This would eliminate CIA and Air Force confusion as to which set of data applies in certain instances. All CIA reports have improved in the past six months according to Colonel Wallace; the writing is smoother and the material better presented. In the ORE Studies, if no discussion follows under an established format heading, it should be so stated rather than making no comment, or eliminating the heading.

SECRETARY, JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF

This copy is read by Captain W. G. Lalor, USN, the named recipient, Colonel John H. Ives, USAF, Deputy Secretary, and by the Director of the Joint Staff and his three deputies. In an interview with Captain Lalor and Colonel Ives, the Captain had no comment. Ives volunteered that he thought the CIA comments were an excellent idea as they often helped interpret items which might otherwise be cryptic, or at least unevaluated. Colonel Ives

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that he occasionally saw cables from which Summary items were taken, prior to his reading them in the Summary. Both the Secretary and Ives read the Daily regularly, do not always get through the Weekly and only occasionally refer to the Situation Reports, Special Evaluations and ORE Studies. Ives believes that the Daily Summary is an excellent publication and presents the day's highlights in a satisfactory manner. He repeated that he believes the CIA comments to be of especial value.

CHAIRMAN, NATIONAL SECURITY RESOURCES BOARD

Mr. G. Lyle Bellisley, Secretary of The Board, reads each issue of the Daily Summary carefully before forwarding it with comments to Mr. Arthur W. Hill, Chairman. Mr. Hill and other members of the Board frequently read both the Daily and Weekly Summaries. Mr. Bellisley, however, studies the contents of both publications and is responsible for bringing significant items to the attention of members of the Board. No specific comments or suggestions were made by either Mr. Hill or Mr. Bellisley other than that the publications are considered of definite value and interest to the National Security Resources Board.

DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF, OPERATIONS, USAF

The Daily and Weekly Summaries are read by Colonel Donnelly, General Norstad's Executive, who calls items to the General's attention as he thinks is warranted. The General is out of town a great deal of the time and relies to a large extent on the memory of Donnelly to keep him posted on significant extracts from the Summaries. Donnelly feels that one item in each issue should be marked in such a manner as to indicate that it is the day's most significant item. He feels that too much evaluation is presently required by busy top-level people who are not intelligence specialists. Donnelly feels very definitely that it would be a help to flag one item as a "must" for readers who don't have time to do their own digesting and evaluating. Donnelly and Norstad are the only two who see this copy. Occasionally items in the copy received by the Director of Intelligence are flagged for Norstad's attention in addition to those items flagged for him by Donnelly.

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